



The President

307421 23.04.2014

Mr Moshe Kantor
President
European Jewish Congress
73 rue de Namur
1000 Bruxelles

Dear Mr Kantor,

Moshe

I would like, first of all, to thank you wholeheartedly for your commitment and collaboration during these last years in combating anti-Semitism and in keeping the Memory of the Shoah alive. Indeed, the European Jewish Congress has proved to be a key partner for the European Parliament in pursuing our common goals in this regard. Let me also congratulate your excellent team for their professionalism and smooth cooperation.

I should also like to thank you for your letter of 26 March in which you communicate to the Bureau of the European Parliament your proposal for the co-organisation of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day 2015.

As you well point out in your letter, next year will mark the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp and the victory over Nazism. I truly believe that the European institutions have a special responsibility to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive and that we must all remain committed to ensure that what happened will never be forgotten. Holding a memorial ceremony such as our annual commemoration cannot undo the atrocities that happened to so many families, but it can serve as a warning, it can serve as a tribute and it can serve as a lesson.

I am glad to inform you that the Bureau of the European Parliament, at its meeting of 14 April, endorsed your draft proposal which includes a distinctive ceremony in the Hemicycle on 27th January 2015. However, please be informed that the decision does not entail any budgetary implications and that the final programme will need to be transmitted to the next Bureau for final approval.

Let me reiterate my most sincere and personal gratitude for your unique dedication to this cause.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Schulz
Martin Schulz